

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
LOG OF MEETING**

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SUBJECT: Meeting with American Council on Electrical Safety (ACES) to discuss electrical safety issues in general.

DATE OF MEETING: November 8, 2001

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: William H. King, Jr., ES *W.H.K.*

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: November 13, 2001

LOCATION: Comfort Inn, BWI Airport location, Baltimore, MD

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): William H. King, Jr., ES

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S):

Kathleen Woods, ACES

Len Frier, MET Laboratories, Inc.

Terry Baker, Broward County (FL) Board of Rules and Appeals

Michael Baldwin, MET Laboratories, Inc.

Christine Briggs, NTS

William Burr, CSA International

Thomas Ferguson, County of Fairfax (VA)

Wayne Gruber, SGS U.S. Testing

Vincent Hawxhurst, TUV America

Joseph Pipkin, Occupational Safety and Health Admin. (OSHA)

Leon Peters, City of Baltimore

Gary Wilson, Entela

Chuck Mello, Electro-Test, Inc.

Robert Smith, First State Inspection Agency

Kathleen Winn, K. Winn & Assoc.

and other members of the ACES

SUMMARY OF MEETING: Mr. King attended a scheduled meeting of the American Council on Electrical Safety. Attached is a copy of the agenda for the meeting. Mr. King presented information regarding CPSC electrical projects (also attached).

American Council on Electrical Safety (ACES)
An Independent Forum Administred by the
American Council of Independent Laboratories (ACIL)

Draft Agenda

Thursday, November 8, 2001 - 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Comfort Inn - BWI Airport

6921 Baltimore - Annapolis Blvd.

Baltimore, Maryland 21225

Tel: (410) 789-9100

Fax: (410) 355-2854

- 9:30 a.m.
1. Opening Remarks, Introductions, and Agenda Review
 2. Inspection Issues
 - 2.1 Field Labeling - Not part of NRTL Program
 - 2.2 Ground Fault Breakers (GFCI) - do not always provide protection after they trip once.
 3. Efforts to introduce European-style CE Marking on electrical products in the United States.
 4. NRTL Issues of concern
 5. OSHA Representative (invited) to discuss recognition of West German Laboratory as an NRTL
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
6. New Proposed OSHA Subpart V Regulations on Installation of Electrical Distribution Systems
 7. OSHA adoption of NFPA 70 B
 8. Presentation by the Consumer Product Safety Commission on:
 - 8.1 CPSC Electrical Activities for FY 2002
 - 8.2 Federal Inter-agency working group on Wire System Safety
 - 8.3 International Conference on Electrical & Electronic Products
Jan.2002
 9. Counterfeiting Issues
- 4:00 p.m.
10. Other Issues, Next meeting, and Adjournment



U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Electrical Activities – November 2001



Electrical Safety Issues

- Large Appliance: Clothes dryers
- Small Appliances: Hair dryers, power tools
- Wiring Products:
 - AFCIs
 - GFCIs
 - Outlet Strips
 - Residential Panelboards/Circuit Breakers
 - NEC 2005 Proposals
 - Aging wiring systems

Clothes Dryers

- Electric and gas
- Installation (inadequate venting) and maintenance (lint accumulation) lead to electrical malfunctions
- CPSC staff preparing regulatory options

3

Hair Dryers

- UL Standards Technical Panel (STP) formed to upgrade standard
- Cord flexure failures, switch failures, enclosure flammability

4

Electric Tools

- Electrocutions from saws, drills, garden tools
- Cord involvement
- Defective grounding
- No GFCI outlet protection

5

Wiring Products

- AFCIs: UL STP
- GFCIs: UL STP
- Outlet Strips
 - Surge Protectors
- Panelboards/Circuit Breakers
 - Plug-in connections
- NEC 2005 Proposals
 - GFCIs for all general-purpose branch circuit outlets in dwellings

6

Residential Electrical Wiring Fire Hazards

- Older homes at greatest risk
- CPSC strategies:
 - inspection of existing residences (NFPA 73)
 - application of new technology to older residences (arc fault circuit interrupters)
 - demonstrate practical safety improvements
- White House National Science and Technology Council looking at aging and deterioration of wiring systems
- USFA/FEMA and fire marshals join forces with CPSC

7

Wire System Safety Interagency Working Group

Consumer Product Safety
Commission

Department of Commerce

Department of Defense

Office of the Secretary of Defense

United States Air Force

United States Navy

United States Army

Department of Energy

Department of Transportation

Federal Aviation Administration

Federal Railroad Administration

Federal Transit Administration

US Coast Guard

Food and Drug Administration

National Aeronautics and Space
Administration

National Science Foundation

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

In addition, the following organizations are
represented on the WSSIWG:

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

Office of Management and Budget

Office of Science and Technology Policy

National Partnership for Reinventing
Government

National Transportation Safety Board
(observer)

8

WSSIWG Activities Involving CPSC

- Chairing subgroup for wiring in buildings
- One Strategy: Federal government addresses older wiring in government-owned housing with AFCIs
- Outreach efforts via media (Consumer Reports, Readers Digest)
- Continuing efforts via codes and standards